

## Blood-Stream Infection (CDC)

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**From:** Sara Cosgrove [scosgro1@jhmi.edu]  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 03, 2009 5:15 PM  
**To:** Blood-Stream Infection (CDC)  
**Subject:** comment regarding Guidelines for the Prevention of Intravascular Catheter-Related Infections

Hi,

I am writing to comment on a recommendation in the “Guidelines for the Prevention of Intravascular Catheter-Related Infections.” I am curious as to how recommendation 7, “Use a subclavian site, rather than a jugular or a femoral site, in adult patients to minimize infection risk for nontunneled CVC placement [25, 99, 100]. Category IA,”

can be given a Category 1A recommendation as there are no randomized trials that address the infectious risk of the subclavian vs. internal jugular site. In addition, the existing retrospective studies do not robustly support a decreased infection risk with the subclavian vs. internal jugular site. Because of this lack of evidence, the wording in the SHEA Compendium of Strategies to Prevent Healthcare-Associated Infections in Acute Care Hospitals seems more appropriate if it is desired to make a Category 1A recommendation: “Avoid using the femoral vein for central venous access in adult patients (A-I).”

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